



KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY

NORMAN J. RADOW COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

FOCUS ON FACULTY



OCTOBER 2023: FEATURING
Ahmad Sarris
Instructor of Psychology



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OCTOBER 27, 2023



**AHMAD
SARRIS**

Instructor of Psychology

Dept. of Psychological
Science

Coaching Beyond the Classroom Yields Results for Students

Ahmad Sarris, instructor of Psychology 2500 Research Methods, had a professor who significantly impacted his life, and now he is paying it forward with his own students. As a sophomore, Sarris sat in KSU professor Dr. Gail Scott's class uncertain about whether to change his major. A conversation followed that was so inspirational he chose to stay in his major, became a TA, an RA, and graduated from KSU summa cum laude. That is what professors who are engaged with their students do – inspire success.

After earning his degree in graduate education in psychology, Sarris returned to KSU as a faculty member, "at the school I love." Now, he is giving his students the same gift by participating in panels with Dr. Scott and sharing his insights on life in graduate school, program demands, career opportunities, and life after graduation. This individualized focus has positively influenced his students' lives just as his was when he was a sophomore. In December 2022 he was nominated by his students for a teaching excellence award at the conclusion of his first year teaching; an accomplishment for which he is very proud. An example of the impact he is having is captured in a recent email from one of his students.

“ Professor Sarris,
I wanted to reach out to you to thank you again, and to let you know that I took your studying advice and got an A on my quiz! I only missed one question and I see where my mistake was. Thank you very much for your help! ”

Sarris's research has been published on WebMD on several occasions. His topic focuses on demonstrating the impact of our educational programs related to knowledge gained pre and post instruction. He also focuses on better education for doctors, and treatments for diseases such as Alzheimer's and breast cancer.

When he isn't working to improve students' academic performance and advancing the cause of brain health, he spends his time outdoors either riding his motorcycle, hiking, flying his drone and dabbling in photography.